

PRESS RELEASE

## First orders signed for new Volvo B13R UNVI XL

**Volvo Buses has secured signed orders for more than a dozen Volvo B13R UNVI XL 4x2 single-deck coaches, plus customers hold options on a further 10 vehicles in the final stages of specification – just three months after the model’s announcement.**

Volvo and UNVI will build the first vehicle, a 53-seat model, over the coming months, ahead of a comprehensive product testing and evaluation phase commencing in late Autumn.

Customer deliveries are planned to start during summer 2026, with the B13R chassis being assembled at Volvo Buses’ factory in Borås, Sweden, before bodying at UNVI.

Roddy Macdonald, Managing Director of Isle of Lewis-based Lochs Motor Transport, one of the first fleets to place an order, says: “We were in the market for a frontline touring coach and this new Volvo had everything we were looking for.

“It’ll be doing a variety of work, from cruise ship contracts, to taking school trips and pipe bands onto the mainland, as well as private hire work for some of our high-end clients who demand the best. We wanted the 13-litre engine as it’ll spend most of its time at full capacity, plus at 12.8m-long it keeps us from crossing over into the more expensive ferry category for vehicles over 13m.

“We have UNVI bodywork on several other vehicles in the fleet and the build quality is superb. When you’re based on an island in the Outer Hebrides, you have to have absolute confidence in the products you operate. For us, the Volvo and UNVI partnership is a meeting of two very trusted brands.”

Domenico Bondi, Managing Director at Volvo Bus UK & Ireland, comments: “This order is testament to the long-standing relationship we enjoy with Lochs Motor Transport and the experience the customer already has of UNVI products in the UK.

“The Volvo B13R chassis offers fantastic fuel efficiency, to enhance the total cost of ownership for operators. When coupled with the UNVI platform, we are confident it will deliver the perfect combination of durability and comfort for long range routes.”

Josef Gisslow, Product Director at Volvo Bus UK & Ireland, explains: “We have been bowled over by the level of interest in our new B13R full-size coach. It’s exceeded all expectations at such an early stage in the project, and it’s exciting to see so many operators sharing in our vision for the new model, and in our partnership with UNVI.”

The Volvo B13R UNVI XL is a new addition to Volvo’s range and is being tailored exclusively to meet the demands of UK and Irish customers. It joins a line-up of full-size Volvo coaches, designed to offer fleets maximum choice.

Volvo's coach range now begins with the attractively priced 12.6m B8R MCV eVoTor, launched in 2024, and powered by an ultra-fuel efficient 7.8-litre diesel engine.

The 12.8m B13R UNVI XL's premium specification and powerful 500hp, 13-litre engine sees it sit at the top end of the single-deck coach market.

Volvo also offers the B13R 9700 double-deck, with bodywork from Finnish bodybuilder Carrus Delta, and vehicle lengths from 13m to 14.8m.

The Volvo B13R UNVI XL is specified with 53 seats and a centre sunken Shades freshwater toilet. A fully PSVAR compliant coach can be operated either as 53-seats, or 49 seats plus one wheelchair space. Following customer feedback since launch a PSVAR prep option has also been developed which allows for ease of PSVAR conversion in the future. An eMirror CMS (Camera Monitoring System) is also now available as a customer option, in place of traditional mirrors.

Confidence in the new model is being demonstrated with a three year / 300,000km warranty (whichever comes first) covering the body & chassis, plus a structural warranty of 12 years.

UNVI is part of the Perez Rumbao Group, founded in 1922, employing around 1,800 people and with an annual turnover exceeding €700m. As a long-standing Volvo Group partner, it operates a number of Volvo Truck and Bus dealerships across the Iberian Peninsula.

In 2025, UNVI celebrates 30 years in bus and coach bodybuilding and has previously collaborated with Volvo Buses on a number of projects throughout Europe.

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